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CONFUCIUS  
INSTITUTE  
IN EDMONTON

通讯  
( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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January, 2020



### The First CIE Chinese Writing Contest Award Ceremony

On **January 28th**, the first CIE Chinese Writing Contest Award Ceremony took place at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. Approximately 200 people attended the event including students, family members, teachers and principals.

613 students from 14 schools participated in the contest in November. 62 students became winners of which 13 won first place, 13 received second place, and 36 were awarded third place. Mr. Cameron Mah, Director of the CIE, presented the awards to the winners.



The purpose of the contest is to support the schools by encouraging the students to write in Chinese and improve their writing skills.

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## 2020 New Year Children's Festival

On January 4th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited by the Maple Art Society to participate in the 2020 New Year Children's Festival at Jasper Place Child and Family Resource Centre.

The CIE teachers brought a variety of Chinese traditional arts for children of all ages to experience such as dough art, Chinese knots, calligraphy, Chinese new year painting, etc...The event allowed kids to experience the fun and engaging activities with hands on activities. Many children were lined up at the CIE booth and surprised their parents with the lively works they made by following the instructions from the CIE teachers. Through these activities, the children were exposed to Chinese culture and arts in



## Chinese Culture Workshop for U of A Students

On the evening of January 15th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton held the Chinese Culture Workshop for medical school students of University of Alberta.

Although it was minus 41 degree outside, the students' passion for Chinese culture and crafts warmed up the Atrium at the Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research. Dough art, paper cutting, calligraphy, Chinese New Year painting, dance handkerchief, and especially Chinese knots were very popular among the students. Many students made their own bracelets as the Chinese New Year gifts for themselves.

a fun and entertaining way.



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## Chinese New Year Lunch for Staff at Languages Centre at Woodcroft

On January 16th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted a Chinese New Year lunch for all the staff at Languages Centre at Woodcroft. Chinese New Year lunch has become a tradition since the CIE moved into this location in 2008.



Chinese New Year lunch is a good way to share



The CIE has partnered with the U of A during the past 10 years promoting the Chinese language and culture.

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## Lunar New Year Celebrations

On January 18th, 19th and 26th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in the two Chinese New Year celebrations organized by the Chinese community. One was the Lunar New Year Extravaganza at West Edmonton Mall, and the other was Lunar New Year of the Rat Celebration at Kingsway Mall. The CIE has been involved in these annual Chinese New Year celebrations for many years.



Chinese food, Chinese traditions, and Chinese culture with staff from other departments and different cultures. It also provides a good opportunity for the staff working in the same place to have a better understanding of each other and develop positive working relationships. It further strengthens the cooperation between the CIE and other departments.

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## Chinese New Year Celebration at Edmonton Tower

On January 23rd, the CIE teachers once again visited Edmonton Tower teaching dough art, Chinese knots, and Chinese New Year painting, Celebrating the Chinese New Year with staff of the Citizen Services Department. Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent of EPSB, and Mr. Cameron Mah, Director of the CIE, also dropped by and supported the event.

Thousands of people joined the celebrations with an exciting showcase of performances, Chinese traditional arts and crafts, Chinese New Year decorations, etc. Spring Festival couplets and fu written by the CIE teachers were very popular. Many people brought them home to decorate their houses. The CIE teachers also received a lot of requests for dough art, Chinese knots, Chinese New Year woodcut painting, and Chinese character tattoo stickers. The students from Confucius Classrooms performed Chinese dances.

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## Open Chinese Chess Contest

On January 26th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted the Open Chinese Chess Contest at Kingsway Mall, adding more fun to Chinese New Year celebration on site.

Over 50 players from elementary children to senior chess masters enjoyed challenging one another in a friendly competition. Eventually, after 5 hours, 6 players won the first place prizes.



The CIE has been devoted to providing cultural support to the community. Through actively taking part in the various events and activities organized by the City of Edmonton, provincial government, and community organizations, the CIE helps people to experience Chinese culture and build a multicultural society.

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Chinese chess is one of the most popular board games in China and other Asian countries. It is especially beneficial for mental health.

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## CIE Received Partners in Education Award

**At the end of 2019**, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton received the 2019 Partners in Education Award from Fort McMurray Public School Division in recognition of the CIE's contributions to student success. The CIE has won the award in two consecutive years.

Since the establishment of Confucius Classroom at Walter and Gladys Hill Public School in Fort McMurray in 2015, the CIE has provided supports for it in many ways including twinning with a partner school in China, providing the teacher and resources



## Chinese New Year at Schools

**With the Chinese New Year coming**, the CIE teachers are having the busiest season of a year. Besides the big Chinese New Year celebrations on weekends, the teachers frequently went to school, providing Chinese culture workshop or supporting the Chinese New Year celebrations.

The CIE teachers made some special designs for dough art, paper cutting, calligraphy, and Chinese New Year painting, featuring the spirit of the Year of the Rat, so the students could learn more about Chinese culture, traditions and the Year of the Rat.

to support Chinese language instruction, support for HSK language assessment, etc. Nearly 600 students are currently learning Chinese at school.



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In January, the CIE teachers went to 14 schools, serving 2,831 district students.

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